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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Research & Development Branch

DATE: 16 January 1962

FROM : Chief, Research & Development Laboratory

SUBJECT: (RS-16, COMMENTS RE R+D PROGRAM)

1. Historically, many R&D programs, leading to the delivery of hardware, that drag out over a period of years have a tendency to become confused and "hairly" toward the end. The RS-16 program, apparently, is no exception. At various times during the past several years, the Laboratory has received a total of thirteen RS-16 units for the purpose of tests leading to final acceptance. Ten units were designated RS-16C's and built by the [] people. The remaining three were the RS-16B's built by [].

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2. Looking back now, I don't think that we ever had all thirteen units in the Laboratory at any one given time unless it would have been just recently. For quite a period we were sending them back and forth to [] for various reasons, and it wasn't at all unusual to have one at [] one on an airplane, two in a car, and the remaining units at the Laboratory at any given time. Anyway, we set out to test all units so that they could be placed into warehouse stock. They required a great deal of work, and a large amount of time was expended on this project. Twelve units were finally put in A-1 working order, and one unit was turned into warehouse stock as class C-4. At no time did the Laboratory ever formally state in writing that all thirteen units were acceptable. Perhaps, through conversations in months past between the engineers involved with this project, one may have received the impression that they were formally accepted but in fact they were not--at least, not by the Laboratory.

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3. The unit in question, the RS-16C, [] actually is made up of components that were replaced in other units. Instead of winding up with four bad RS-16's, we took the defective component from each and combined them to make up one defective RS-16. At the time, it was our suggestion that parts be ordered and that we would put this particular set into working order. This suggestion was turned down, however, because it would have involved amending contracts and a great deal of paper work. In view of this, then, we were instructed to turn the defective unit into warehouse stock "as is" with proper notations.

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4. In summary, the RS-16C, [redacted] turned into warehouse stock as class C-4 has the following defects:

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- a. The stepping oscillator output is about one third of normal.
- b. The receiver is dead on two channels.
- c. The transmitter band switch is mechanically defective.
- d. The coder is defective.

[redacted]

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